From: Greg Granger
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 11/25/01 7:07pm

Subject: confused and disappointed

I've been a software developer for over twenty years and I currently work with MS technologies. In fact in the early to mid 1980's I was a big MS fan. However, their conduct over the pass fifteen years has been utterly contemptible and without morals.

I'm as confused as I am disappointed by the token settlement with MS. What exactly was the point of this case?

The government found MS a monopoly then made an agreement that basically rubber stamps all of MS illegal behavior. After reading the agreement it's clear that there was no penalty for it's frequent and obvious pass anti-competitive actions. However, worst than this it's clear that there is absolutely no requirement for MS to change anything that it's currently doing. Rather than run down why the different parts are either useless or meaningless, I challenge the DOJ to document one MEANINGFUL change that has or will occur at MS that either helps the consumer or addresses MS's criminal behavior. ... If you think you have one, send it to me and I'll explain your error. In fact parts of this (like the 10/20 biggest vendors non-sense) actually help MS. Further since MS had already destroyed any meaningful competition by the mid-1990's, what difference does it make that vendors NOW have the chance to ship systems without a MS product????? This agreement makes no sense. At best it's gross incompetence, at worst corruption. I'm still utterly floored by Judge Jackson's conduct. While he was the only person to hand down an even remotely sane verdict, was he really so clueless to believe that his conduct would not disqualify his ruling I think not. Even if MS had been split it would have been 5-10 years before any real gains to the American consumer would have been felt.

When time allows I will be sending a paper and electronic letter to my representative and sentators requesting that the DOJ be investigated in relation to this matter.